

**JORDAN**

**NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE 1970 CONVENTION ON THE MEANS OF  
PROHIBITING AND PREVENTING THE ILLICIT  
IMPORT, EXPORT AND TRANSFER OF  
OWNERSHIP OF CULTURAL PROPERTY**

**2011 – 2015**

The Department of Antiquities submits the requirement information regarding of these questionnaires to ensure the implementation of the 1970 Convention.

**A- Information on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention of 1970(with reference to its provisions )**

1- The Department of Antiquities has ratified of the Convention of 1970.

2- Implementation in the National legal system and in the organization of services.

- The Jordanian Antiquities Law No. 21 of 1988, as amended<sup>1</sup>, a set of controls that have worked to reduce the smuggling of artifacts and the reduction of illegal excavations and tighten sanctions on the illicit trade in antiquities.
- The Department of Antiquities established anti- Illicit trafficking and Trade Section; its responsibility is to coordinate with security Department to prohibit and prevent the illicit import, export and trade of Cultural properties.
- In 2006 Police Department establish a specialized unit as part of Anti-Narcotics Department with the task of confiscating smuggled artifacts and preventing trafficking of antiquities in cooperation with international security Department such as INTERPOL.
- **A strong cooperation between the Department of Antiquities of Jordan and many governmental agencies ,as follow:**
  - 1- The Security Department: tracking the criminals in illicit trafficking, coordinate with the Department of Antiquities in evaluating the exact dating, in addition in turning over the Authentic object to the Department .
  - 2- The Costumes Department: monitoring the import & export activities & confiscate the illegal objects in the border.

3- Inventories and identification

- All the objects and artifacts are inventoried in the museums and and store house, and they have ID system for all objects adapted by state party needs. On other hand there is database list for Confiscated objects from governmental agencies.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information visit (<http://www.doa.gov.jo/>),

4- Archaeological excavations

- Regulations for archeological excavations and surveys in Jordan issued pursuant to the provisions of the Jordanian Antiquities Law Number 21 for the year 1988 as amended.

The Department of antiquities tries to prevent and combat any illegal excavation by following:

- 1- Training and capacity building for Department of Antiquities guards.
- 2- System control in the site.
- 3- Cooperation with Police Department (tourist police) in the archaeological sites.
- 4- Awareness programs (National awareness campaign).
- 5- -There are punishment procedures for illegal excavations regarding of Antiquities law No.21 of the year 1988 Article 26 /a1.

#### **Article26**

*a-A punishment of not less than one year and not more than three years imprisonment and a fine not less than three thousand dinars, in proportion to the value of the antiquities, shall be imposed on any one who:*

- 1-Prospects for antiquities without obtaining a license by virtue of this law.*

#### 5- Monitoring of the export import of cultural property

- Department of Antiquities has good cooperation between Custom, and policy Department to prohibit and prevent any import or export of the artifacts through border.
- On other hand it couldn't import and export any object was new or old without coordinate and evaluating by Department of Antiquities experts.
- There are obvious article of Antiquities law No.21 of the year 1988 N.5/g:  
*It shall be prohibited to bring into the kingdom any movable antiquities with a view to export them whether they are held by a person or through transit unless it is proved in writing that his possession of such antiquities is legal.*
- The Department of Antiquities conducts annual monitoring for private collection of Antiquities and Folkloric materials, owned by Jordanian or permanent residents in Jordan.

#### 6- System for trade –in, acquisition, ownership and transfer of cultural property

There are obvious articles of Antiquities law No.21 of the year 1988 regarding of this point:

#### **Article 5, c**

*c- "3" amateurs shall have the right , with the consent of the department, to own or collect antiquities from outside the kingdom with a view to acquisition if this is permitted by the legislation of the country of origin of any such material . The border customs centers should be advised upon entry of any such material into the kingdom. The centers will, in turn, hand them over to the department through an employee of the customs in the presence of the owner to register and document them according to legal procedures within seven days from the data they are received.*

#### **Article 7**

*Whoever has or is in possession of any movable antiquities shall provide to the department a list thereof containing their number, pictures and other details there of as well as a brief description of every one of them. The department may, if it deems proper, duly document them.*

#### **Article 8**

*a-The department may, with the approval of the minister, purchase the antiquities referred to in the preceding article or any part thereof provided that their value shall be estimated pursuant to this law. The antiquities not purchased shall remain in the possession of their in any way without the approval of the minister on the recommendation of the department.*

*b-Any person may donate the antiquities he owns or any part thereof to the department. Any antiquities presented in this way shall be kept in the names of their donors at the museums of the department.*

*c-The director may request in written anybody having antiquities to hand them over the department for the purpose related to its duties provided that they shall be returned to their owners after their examination within a maximum period year.*

#### **Article 23**

*Trading in antiquities shall be prohibited. All licenses for trading in antiquities shall be considered as cancelled upon execution of this law.*

#### **Article 24**

*Subject of article 23 hereof, no transport, export or sale of movable antiquities outside the kingdom shall be permitted minister based on the commendation of the director.*

#### **Article 25**

*a-The department, subject of the approval of the minister, may purchase some of or all the antiquities in the possession of their owner provided that their price shall be estimated in agreement with the minister. If no agreement is reached, the price shall be estimated by two experts, one to be appointed by the department and the other by the owner of the antiquities. In the case the two experts differ they shall appoint a third expert who will case a tie-breaking vote.*

*b-If the department does not purchase the antiquities, their possessor may transfer their ownership to a third party.*

*c-Provided that this shall be made with the knowledge of, and under the supervision of the department.*

#### 7- Bilateral agreements

Department of Antiquities has new agreement under process with Egyptian government to prohibit and prevent the illicit import, export and trade of Cultural properties.

## **B- Code of ethics, awareness raising and education**

The state party adopted the code of ethics especially the **ICOM** codes in the museums.

### Awareness raising and education

The Department of antiquities organized many activities programs by:

- The Department of Antiquities established many years ago Museum and Awareness Directorate to organize workshops and meetings with the local communities and school.
- The Department of antiquities has been publication an annual ATHAR magazine to increasing public awareness about the value of antiquities and keeping the general public well informed about the kingdom's historical treasures and the central role of the Department to preserve these treasures.
- National awareness campaign to raise awareness of the young people the significance and value of the Archaeological Heritage .
- The strategy for management of Jordan s archaeological heritage.

## **C- Cooperation with other international and regional agencies**

Sometimes there is cooperation with **Interpol**, if the state party declares stolen objects have ID Jordan.

## **D- Emergency situations and heritage at risk**

The Cultural and Natural Heritage issues are taken into consideration as part of the study programs of military and security Departments of Universities and academic sections of Military Forces.